Forests leased out to Mysore Commercial Union.

Q.—222. Sri N. HUCHMASTHY GOWDA (Huliyurdurga).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the forests that have been leased out to Mysore Commercial Union and for what period and at what rate;

(*b*) the quantity of timber removed by this concern for the last five years;

(*c*) the amount of revenue realised by Government for the last five years;

(*d*) how do these rates compare with the existing rates charged for other consumers;

(*e*) what is the control effected to see that the timber is utilised for the purpose for which it is intended?

A.—Sri T. CHANNIAH (Minister for Public Health and Local Self-Government).—

(*a*)

1. *Ghat Forests of Manjarabad Range.*—

Maximum exploitation of 5,000 tons or 2,50,000 c.ft. approximately per year is permitted till the end of January, 1958 subject to payment of seigniorage of Re. 0-1-0 per c.ft. in the case of soft woods suitable for peeling and at half the seigniorage rates for other kinds and also subject to payment of a contribution of Rs. 5,000 per annum towards the cost of establishment.

2. *Balur State Forest.*—

Maximum exploitation of 4,500 c.ft. of soft woods per year for a period of 3 years from 9th April 1952, is permitted subject to payment of seigniorage of Re. 0-4-0 per c.ft. and contribution of Rs. 840 per annum towards allowances to staff.

3. *District Forests and Kans of Sagar Division.*—

Maximum extraction of 40,000 c.ft. per year of 'Mavu' and other soft woods till the end of April 1957, subject to payment of seigniorage of Re. 0-4-0 per c.ft.

(*b*) *Hassan District.*—

Year	*Quantity*
1948-49 ..	1,08,300 c.ft.
1949-50 ..	47,490 c.ft.
1950-51 ..	1,06,198 c.ft.
1952-53 ..	2,20,589 c.ft.

Sagar Division.—

1950-51 ..	25,685 c.ft.
1951-52 ..	42,096 c.ft.
1952-53 ..	40,262 c.ft.

(*c*) *Year*	*Revenue realised* Rs. a. p.
1948-49 ..	8,107 0 0
1949-50 ..	3,782 6 0
1950-51 ..	16,123 0 0
1951-52 ..	22,693 10 0
1952-53 ..	20,347 9 6

(*d*) The rates charged for other concerns vary from annas four to annas six. The rates charged for the Mysore Commercial Union is anna one per c.ft. in the case of soft woods permitted to be exploited in the Ghat Forests of Manjarabad Range in addition to payment of a contribution of Rs. 5,000 per year and annas four per c.ft. in respect of lease in other forests. The concession rate of Re. 0-1-0 per c.ft. in respect of exploitation of soft woods in the ghat forests of Manjarabad Range (Hassan District) was granted to this concern to start with in 1942 when there was practically no demand for soft woods in the State.

(*e*) Sufficient safeguards are imposed in the Agreement executed by the Company.

One of the clauses reads as follows :—

"The timber extracted shall not be utilised for purposes other than the manufacture of plywood and other allied wood products . . . ."